



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

26646 7590 07/17/2009

KENYON & KENYON LLP  
ONE BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10004

EXAMINER

SHECHTMAN, SEAN P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2121

DATE MAILED: 07/17/2009

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/584,423

06/22/2006

Yasuhito Yaji

01381/10

1253

TITLE OF INVENTION: PRODUCTION SCHEDULE CREATION DEVICE AND METHOD, PRODUCTION PROCESS CONTROL DEVICE AND METHOD, COMPUTER PROGRAM, AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING MEDIUM

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	10/19/2009

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.**

**THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.**

### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

#### I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

# **PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL**

**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
or Fax (571)-273-2885**

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

26646 7590 07/17/2009

**KENYON & KENYON LLP**  
ONE BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10004

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

## **Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/584,423 06/22/2006 Yasuhito Yaji 01381/10 1253

TITLE OF INVENTION: PRODUCTION SCHEDULE CREATION DEVICE AND METHOD, PRODUCTION PROCESS CONTROL DEVICE AND METHOD, COMPUTER PROGRAM, AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING MEDIUM

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
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nonprovisional NO \$1510 \$300 \$0 \$1810 10/19/2009

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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SHECHTMAN, SEAN P 2121 700-100000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Typed or printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/584,423	06/22/2006	Yasuhito Yaji	01381/10	1253
26646	7590	07/17/2009	EXAMINER	
KENYON & KENYON LLP ONE BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10004			SHECHTMAN, SEAN P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2121	
DATE MAILED: 07/17/2009				

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 0 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 0 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/584,423

Applicant(s)

YAJI ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Sean P. Shechtman

2121

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/22/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,30 and 34.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

1. Objections withdrawn.

***Drawings***

2. Objections withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. Rejections withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. Rejections withdrawn.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 1, 30, 34, are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

While Dietrich teaches a production schedule creation device, method, computer program, computer-readable medium recording a computer program (Col. 6, lines 40-63; Col. 4, lines 57-68, DARA; Col. 2, lines 32-57 and Col. 20, lines 33-35, production plan), comprising: a production simulator that simulates a production process expressing a production state and a production constraint of the production process and is configured as a discrete system that moves a thing at each event (Col. 19, lines 28-35, mathematically modeling the consumption of each resource by orders and the availability of resources; Col. 20, lines 44-48, mathematical model of discrete activity resource allocation problem); a mathematical expression model holding device that holds a mathematical expression model which is created by acquiring information

Art Unit: 2121

relating to creation of a production schedule to which attention is paid (Col. 19, lines 23-27, model generator means responsive to data preprocessing means; Col. 20, lines 33-43, generate production plan, and mathematical model formulated using reduced activities and resources), and is a mathematical expression model by acquiring all or only part of the production state and the production constraint of the above described production process configured in the above described production simulator and expressing in a mathematical expression (Col. 19, lines 28-35, mathematically modeling the consumption of each resource by orders and the availability of resources; Col. 20, lines 44-48, mathematical model of discrete activity resource allocation problem; Col. 7, line 67 – Col. 8, line 55); and an optimization calculation device that performs optimization calculation processing by using a predetermined evaluation function for the above described mathematical expression model, and calculates a production instruction for said production simulator (Col. 19, lines 45-56), wherein the production instruction obtained by said optimization calculation device is supplied to said production simulator to cause it to execute simulation (Col. 19, lines 48-56; Col. 20, lines 33 – Col. 21, lines 12), an instruction to create a mathematical expression model by acquiring all or only part of said production state and the production constraint and expressing in a mathematical expression and to perform optimization calculation is repeatedly output to said optimization calculation device from said production simulator whenever a new event requiring an instruction occurs (Col. 19, lines 48-56; Col. 20, lines 33 – Col. 21, line 12), and thereby said production simulator and said optimization calculation device are linked to each other to create the production schedule in the

above described production process (Col. 6, lines 40-63; Col. 4, lines 57-68, DARA; Col. 2, lines 32-57 and Col. 20, lines 33-35, production plan).

And, Hanson teaches a production schedule creation device, method, computer program, computer-readable medium recording a computer program (Col. 5, line 23 – Col. 6; Fig. 2), comprising: a production simulator that simulates a production process expressing a production state and a production constraint of the production process and is configured as a discrete system that moves a thing at each event (Col. 7, lines 12 – Col. 8, line 50, computer simulation models arrive at process model and process constraints); a mathematical expression model holding device that holds a mathematical expression model which is created by acquiring information relating to creation of a production schedule to which attention is paid (broad; See Abstract, entire invention of Hanson is related to providing optimum production schedule; Col. 5, line 23 – Col. 16), and is a mathematical expression model by acquiring all or only part of the production state and the production constraint of the above described production process configured in the above described production simulator and expressing in a mathematical expression (Col. 7, lines 12 – Col. 8, line 50, See equations for process model and process constraints); and an optimization calculation device that performs optimization calculation processing by using a predetermined evaluation function for the above described mathematical expression model, and calculates a production instruction for said production simulator (Col. 5, line 23 – Col. 16, solution of linear programming model).

Neither Dietrich nor Hanson, taken either alone or in obvious combination disclose a system/method/program having all the claimed features of applicant's instant invention, specifically including: a production simulator means for simulating a production process expressing a production state and a production constraint of the production process, being configured in a Petri net model or a graph model as a discrete system that moves a thing at each event; a mathematical expression model holding means for holding a mathematical expression model output by said production simulator means, wherein said mathematical expression model is configured to correspond to said production simulator means and is created by said production simulator means in each case that an event requiring a production instruction occurs using elements relating to creation of a production schedule from all or only part of the production state and the production constraint of the above described production process; and an optimization calculation means for performing optimization calculation processing by using said mathematical expression model and a predetermined evaluation function for the above described mathematical expression model, and calculating a production instruction for said production simulator means; wherein the production instruction obtained by said optimization calculation means is supplied to said production simulator means to cause it to execute simulation, wherein simulation result is output as a production schedule, wherein whenever a new event requiring a production instruction occurs, said production simulator means and said optimization calculation means are linked to each other so that creating said mathematical expression model by said production simulator means and outputting an instruction to



said optimization calculation means to perform optimization calculation from said production simulator means is repeated to create the production schedule in the above described production process.

It is for these reasons that applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sean P. Shechtman whose telephone number is (571)272-3754. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am-6:00pm, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on (571) 272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SPS  
Sean P. Shechtman  
July 15, 2009

/Sean P. Shechtman/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2121